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MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C ONE FINANCIAL CENTER BOSTON MA 02111

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Brian Labrec : DECISION ON APPLICATION

Application No. 10/677,092 : FOR

Filed: September 30, 2003 : PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT

Atty. Dkt. No. 38820-534001US

This is a decision on the "REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.705(b)," filed on December 17, 2009. Applicants request that the initial determination of patent term adjustment be corrected from eighteen (18) days to forty-eight (48) days. Applicants additionally state that the correction is requested in view of the decision in Wyeth v. Dudas, (D.D.C. 2008). As applicant raises the issue of delay under 37 CFR 1.702(b), the petition will be treated as a petition requesting correction, in part, on the basis that the Office will take in excess of three years to issue this patent.

The application for patent term adjustment is  $\frac{\text{GRANTED to the}}{\text{extent indicated.}}$ 

The Office has updated the PALM and PAIR screens to reflect that the correct Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) determination at the time of the mailing of the Notice of Allowance is FORTY-EIGHT (48) days. A copy of the updated PALM screen, showing the correct determination, is enclosed.

To the extent that the instant application for patent term adjustment requests reconsideration of the patent term adjustment as it relates to the Office's failure to issue the patent within 3 years of the filing date, the application for patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(b) is **DISMISSED as PREMATURE**.

Knowledge of the actual date the patent issues is required to calculate the amount, if any, of additional patent term patentee

is entitled to for Office failure to issue the patent within 3 years. See § 1.702(b). (This is true even where a request for continued examination (RCE) was filed). The computer will not undertake the § 1.702(b) calculation until the actual date of issuance of the patent has been determined. Likewise, the computer will not calculate any further Office delay under § 1.702(a)(4) or applicant delay under § 1.704(c)(10) until the actual date of issuance of the patent has been determined. As such, the Office can not make a determination on the correctness of the patent term adjustment until the patent has issued.

Requesting reconsideration of the patent term adjustment to be indicated on the patent under 37 CFR 1.705(b) based on the initial determination of patent term adjustment and a projected issuance date of the patent (or even the filing date of the request for continued examination) is premature. Accordingly, it is appropriate to dismiss as premature such a request.

Rather than file an application for patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(b) contesting the 37 CFR 1.702(b) calculation at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance, applicants are advised that they may wait until the time of the issuance of the patent and file a request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.705(d). As the USPTO does not calculate the amount of time earned pursuant to 37 CFR 1.702(b) until the time of the issuance of the patent, the Office will consider any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment due to an error in the calculation of 37 CFR 1.702(b) to be timely if the request for reconsideration is filed within two months of the issuance of the patent. However, as to all other bases for contesting the initial determination of patent term adjustment received with the notice of allowance, applicant must timely file an application for patent term adjustment prior to the payment of the issue fee1.

For example, if applicant disputes both the calculation of patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.702(a)(1) for Office failure to mail a first Office action or notice of allowance not later than fourteen months after the date on which the application was filed and under 37 CFR 1.702(b) for Office failure to issue a patent within three years of the actual filing date of the application, then applicant must still timely file an application for patent term adjustment prior to the payment of the issue fee to contest the calculation of Office delay in issuing a first Office action or notice of allowance. See 37 CFR 1.705(b) and 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B). A dispute as to the calculation of the \$1.702(a)(1) period raised on request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(d) will be dismissed as untimely filed.

To the extent the application requests reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.705(b), the petition is **GRANTED**.

On September 21, 2009, the Office mailed a Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) in the above-identified application. Applicant was advised that the patent term adjustment to date was 18 days. The period of adjustment was 285 days of PTO delay and 267 days of applicant delay.

On December 17, 2009, the subject application for patent term adjustment was timely filed. $^{2}$ 

Applicants state that a period of reduction of 11 days for applicant delay should be entered pursuant to 37 CFR 1.704(c)(8), for the filing of a supplemental paper (IDS) on July 1, 2005, 11 days after the filing of a reply on June 20, 2005.

Upon review, applicants are correct. A review of the record reveals that on July 1, 2005, 11 days after the filing of a reply on June 20, 2005, an IDS was filed. The IDS was not accompanied by the statement set forth in 37 CFR 1.704(d). Therefore, a period of reduction of 11 days for applicant delay will be entered.

Applicants state that a period of reduction of 14 days for applicant delay should be entered pursuant to 37 CFR 1.704(c)(8) for the filing of a supplemental paper (IDS) on October 24, 2006, 14 days after the filing of a reply on October 10, 2006.

Upon review, applicants are correct. A review of the record reveals that on October 24, 2006, 14 days after the filing of a reply on October 10, 2006, an IDS was filed. The IDS was not accompanied by the statement set forth in 37 CFR 1.704(d). Therefore, an additional period of reduction of 14 days for applicant delay will be entered.

Applicants assert that duplicate periods of both Office and applicant delay have been entered. In particular, applicants assert duplicate periods of reduction for applicant delay of 61 days on November 20, 2007; of 4 days on April 21, 2008, and of 33 days on September 15, 2008, respectively, were entered. Further, applicants assert a duplicate period of adjustment for Office delay of 43 days was entered on February 27, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A review of PALM records indicates that the issue fee was paid on December 18, 2009.

Upon review, applicants are correct. Duplicate periods of applicant delay of 61 days, 4 days, and 33 days were entered. Additionally, a duplicate period of Office delay of 43 days was entered. The duplicate periods of Office delay and applicant delay will be removed.

In view thereof, the correct determination of patent term adjustment at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance is FORTY-EIGHT (48) days (242 (108 + 91 + 43) days of PTO delay, reduced by 194 (64 + 2 + 11 + 5 + 14 + 61 + 4 + 33) days of Applicant delay).

The Office acknowledges submission of the \$200.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(e). No additional fees are required.

The Office of Patent Publication has been advised of this decision. The application is thereby forwarded to the Office of Patent Publication for issuance of the patent. The patent term adjustment indicated on the patent (as shown on the Issue Notification mailed about three weeks prior to patent issuance) will include any additional adjustment accrued both for Office delay in issuing the patent more than four months after payment of the issue fee and satisfaction of all outstanding requirements, and if applicable, for the Office taking in excess of three years to issue the patent (to the extent that the three-year period does not overlap with periods already accorded).

Telephone inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Douglas I. Wood at (571) 272-3231.

Anthony Knight

Supervisor

Office of Petitions

Encl: Revised PALM Calculation

Day : Friday Date: 3/26/2010



## PALM INTRANET

Time: 07:34:06

PTA Calculations for Application: 10/677092							
Application Filing Date: 09/30/2003	PTO Delay (PTO): 285						
Issue Date of Patent:	Three Years: 0						
Pre-Issue Petitions: 0	Applicant Delay (APPL): 267						
Post-Issue Petitions: 0	Total PTA (days): 48						
PTO Delay Adjustment: 30							

	File Contents History						
Number	Date	Contents Description	PTO	APPL	START		
162	03/26/2010	ADJUSTMENT OF PTA CALCULATION BY PTO	30				
155	09/21/2009	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE					
		ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED					
153	08/08/2009	ALLOWED CASE RETURNED TO THE EXAMINER FOR CLERICAL PROCESSING					
152	08/08/2009	DOCUMENT VERIFICATION					
151	08/08/2009	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED					
150	08/04/2009	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY					
149	07/20/2009	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED					
148	07/20/2009	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED					
		DATE FORWARDED TO EXAMINER					
146	07/20/2009	REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)					
145	07/28/2009	DISPOSAL FOR A RCE / CPA / R129					
144	07/20/2009	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED					
		WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN					
142	06/22/2009	EXPORT TO INITIAL DATA CAPTURE					
141	06/17/2009	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE					
141	06/17/2009	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE					
140	06/17/2009	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED					
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139	06/17/2009	DOCUMENT VERIFICATION					
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103	05/12/2008	NON-FINAL REJECTION		
102	04/21/2008	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
102	04/21/2008	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
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97	04/21/2008	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
97	04/21/2008	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
96	04/21/2008	WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN		
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95	01/21/2008	EXPORT TO INITIAL DATA CAPTURE		
95	01/21/2008	EXPORT TO INITIAL DATA CAPTURE		
94	01/17/2008	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE		
94	01/17/2008	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE		
93	01/16/2008	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED		
93	01/16/2008	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED		
92	01/16/2008	DOCUMENT VERIFICATION		
92	01/16/2008	DOCUMENT VERIFICATION		
91	01/16/2008	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED		
91	01/16/2008	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED		
90	01/07/2008	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY		
90	01/07/2008	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY		
89	11/29/2007	DATE FORWARDED TO EXAMINER		
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88	11/20/2007	RESPONSE AFTER NON-FINAL ACTION	61	85
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87	11/20/2007	REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME - GRANTED		
87	11/20/2007	REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME - GRANTED		
86	10/04/2007	CASE DOCKETED TO EXAMINER IN GAU		
86	10/04/2007	CASE DOCKETED TO EXAMINER IN GAU		
85	06/20/2007	MAIL NON-FINAL REJECTION		
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84	06/18/2007	NON-FINAL REJECTION		
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83	06/08/2007	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
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82	06/08/2007	REFERENCE CAPTURE ON IDS		
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81	06/08/2007	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
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80	06/13/2007	DATE FORWARDED TO EXAMINER		
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79	06/08/2007	REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)		
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78	06/13/2007	DISPOSAL FOR A RCE / CPA / R129		
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76	06/08/2007	WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN		
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74	03/08/2007	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE		
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73	03/01/2007	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED		

72	03/01/2007	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED		
71	02/15/2007	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY		
70	10/24/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
69	02/08/2007	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
68	02/08/2007	REFERENCE CAPTURE ON IDS		
67.7	02/08/2007	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
67	02/08/2007	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
66	02/12/2007	DATE FORWARDED TO EXAMINER .		
65	02/08/2007	REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)		
64	02/12/2007	DISPOSAL FOR A RCE / CPA / R129		
63	02/08/2007	WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN		
62	11/13/2006	EXPORT TO INITIAL DATA CAPTURE		
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60	11/07/2006	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED		
59	11/07/2006	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED		
58	11/07/2006	CASE DOCKETED TO EXAMINER IN GAU		
57.7	10/24/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
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56		NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY		
55	10/10/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED		
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53.7	10/10/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
53	10/10/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED		
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50	10/13/2006	DISPOSAL FOR A RCE / CPA / R129		
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47	07/10/2006	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE			
46	06/27/2006	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED			
45	06/27/2006	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED			
44	06/27/2006	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY			
43	06/16/2006	FINISHED INITIAL DATA CAPTURE			
42	04/24/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED			
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39	06/09/2006	DISPOSAL FOR A RCE / CPA / R129			
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37.7	04/24/2006	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED			
37		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED			
36	04/24/2006	WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN			
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34	01/19/2006	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE	91		25
33	01/09/2006	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED			
32	01/09/2006	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED			
31	01/09/2006	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY			
30		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED			
29	07/01/2005	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONSIDERED			
28	06/20/2005	REFERENCE CAPTURE ON IDS			
27.7	06/20/2005	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED			
27	06/20/2005	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED			
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22	07/01/2005	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) FILED			
21	06/20/2005	WORKFLOW - REQUEST FOR RCE - BEGIN			
20	03/25/2005	EXPORT TO INITIAL DATA CAPTURE			
19	03/18/2005	MAIL NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE	108		-1
18	03/17/2005	ISSUE REVISION COMPLETED			
17	03/17/2005	NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DATA VERIFICATION COMPLETED			
16	03/15/2005	NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY			
15	05/26/2004	PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT			
14	07/08/2004	CASE DOCKETED TO EXAMINER IN GAU			
13		IFW TSS PROCESSING BY TECH CENTER COMPLETE			
12	06/10/2004	APPLICATION RETURN FROM OIPE			
. 11	06/10/2004	APPLICATION RETURN TO OIPE			
10	06/10/2004	APPLICATION DISPATCHED FROM OIPE			
9	06/10/2004	APPLICATION IS NOW COMPLETE			
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6	12/23/2003	NOTICE MAILEDAPPLICATION INCOMPLETE FILING DATE ASSIGNED			
4	12/11/2003	CASE CLASSIFIED BY OIPE			
3	12/11/2003	CLEARED BY OIPE CSR			
2	11/14/2003	IFW SCAN & PACR AUTO SECURITY REVIEW			
1	09/30/2003	INITIAL EXAM TEAM NN			

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## **EXPLANATION OF PTA CALCULATION**

## **EXPLANATION OF PTE CALCULATION**

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